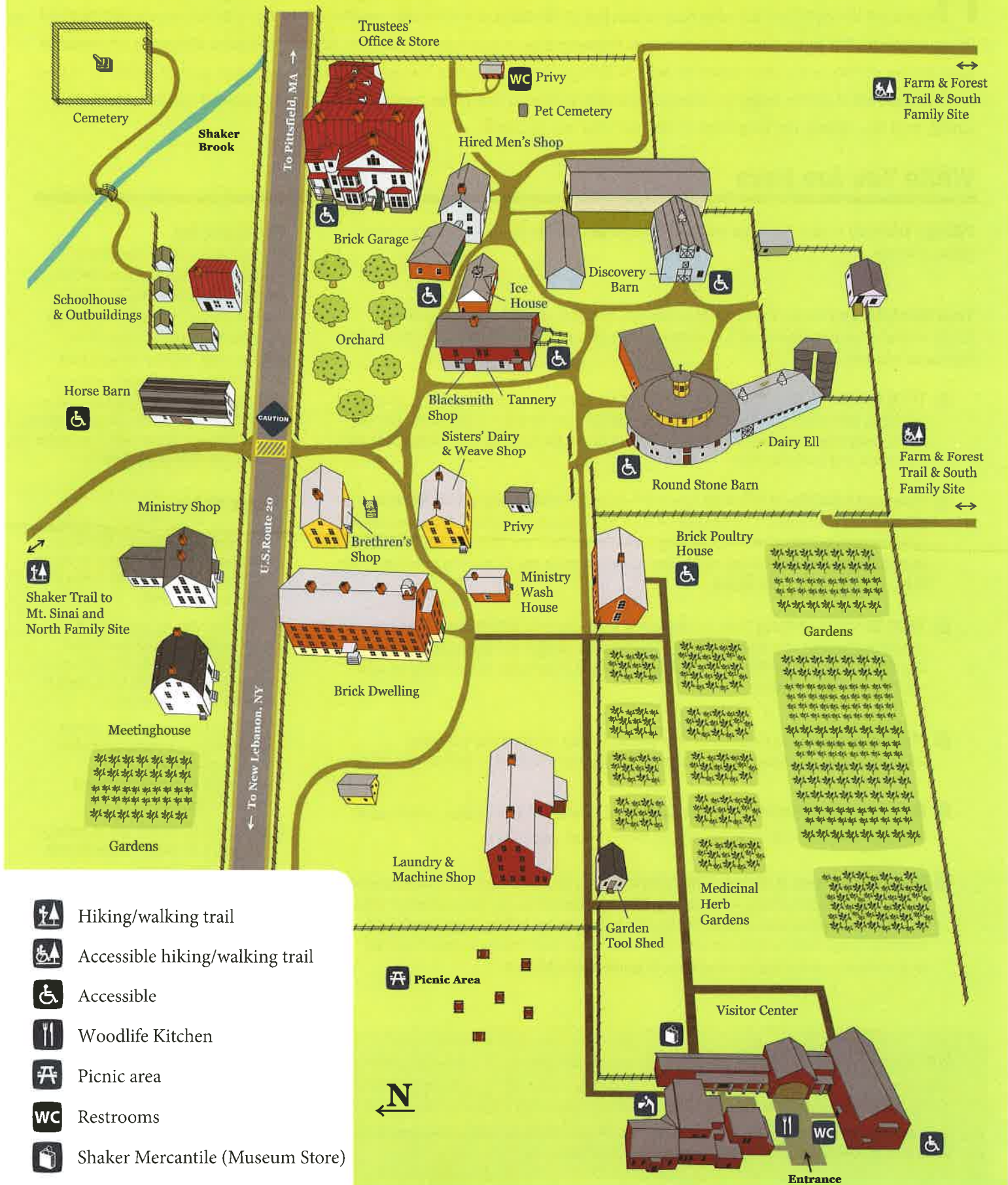




Hancock Shaker

VILLAGE



ABOUT HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE

Hancock Shaker Village began in the late 1780s, when nearly 100 Believers consolidated a community on land donated by local farmers who had converted to the Shaker movement. By the 1830s, the Shaker community peaked in population with more than 300 Believers. Preserved as a museum since 1960, Hancock Shaker Village is a landmark destination of 750 acres, 20 historic Shaker buildings, archaeological hiking trails, and more than 22,000 artifacts. Listed on the National Historic Register, Hancock Shaker Village is the most comprehensively interpreted Shaker site in the world, and the oldest working farm in Western Massachusetts.

While You Are Here

Village History View a 7-minute video in 5 languages behind our ticket desk to learn about Shakers.

Tour the Village Explore the historic buildings, the farm, woodlands, and gardens. Check at the ticket desk for today's schedule of free demonstrations and talks. Not to miss highlights include:

- **1826 Round Stone Barn** See farm animals such as sheep, pigs, cattle, goats, donkeys, and poultry in the Dairy Ell and adjacent barnyard and pastures. Marvel at the uniquely stunning and efficient Round Stone Barn. Be on the lookout for our barn cats and swallows too!
- **Heirloom Gardens** The Medicinal Herb Garden contains 80+ plants listed in the Shakers' 1873 "Druggist's Handbook of Pure Botanical Preparations." The vegetable gardens are planted and tended using techniques from the 1843 Shaker "Gardener's Manual." Varieties are based on Shaker seed lists from the 1800s, many of which are rare and difficult to find today.
- **1830 Brick Dwelling** Built to house 100 Brethren and Sisters in a communal dormitory setting, the Dwelling contains exquisite design elements as well as the largest portion of the Village's collection of Shaker furniture, other artifacts, and rotating special exhibits.
- **Meetinghouse** Constructed in 1793 by the Shaker community in Shirley, Massachusetts, the Meetinghouse was purchased and moved to Hancock in 1962.
- **Brick Poultry House** This 1878 hen house, now used as a gallery, serves as a fine example of the Shakers' efficiency, design, and ingenuity.
- **Demonstrations & Hands-On Activities** Shaker craftsmanship in woodworking, textiles, and blacksmithing is frequently demonstrated in the Tannery, Brethren's Shop, and Sisters' Dairy & Weave Shop. See the innovative water turbine in the Laundry & Machine Shop. Visit the Discovery Barn to learn about such things as spinning wool and weaving with hands-on experiences perfect for children.

Photography

Tag @hancockshakervillage or #hancockshakervillage on social media. Flash photography and tripods are not permitted near art exhibits and installations. Note that by entering the Village, you agree to the use of your image for publicity purposes. If you intend to use images in a professional capacity, please inquire at the visitors center for the appropriate permissions.

Please Note:

- Because Hancock Shaker Village is a working farm with livestock and poultry, pets are not allowed on the Village grounds. Service dogs are welcome.
- Smoking, vaping, and use of e-cigarettes are not permitted anywhere on the historic property. These activities may take place in the Visitor Parking Lot.
- As you enjoy your visit, please respect the gardens, animals, buildings, and artifacts by following staff direction and posted signage.
- Food and drink are not allowed in historic buildings. Capped water bottles are allowed.
- Children 12 and under should be accompanied throughout their visit by a responsible adult.
- Tree and fence climbing are not permitted.

Become a Member Your membership helps us care for our historic buildings, priceless collection of Shaker artifacts, farm animals, and heirloom gardens. Member benefits include unlimited visits, special invitations to member events, and discounts. Best of all, members help preserve the Village's historic past and provide for its exciting future.

Become a member, renew a membership, gift a membership, or learn more about membership benefits at the Visitor Center, in Shaker Mercantile, or online at hancockshakervillage.org.